

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A direction indicating device comprising:

a directional section specifying unit that detects geomagnetism to specify ~~an orientation~~
~~direction~~ a directional section of a vehicle;

a display directional section determining unit that determines a current display directional section in consideration of historical information of the directional section of the vehicle ~~itself~~ specified by the directional section specifying unit and a previous display directional section; and

a directional section providing unit that provides the current display directional section determined by the display directional section determining unit.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The direction indicating device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the directional section specifying unit repeatedly detects geomagnetism and finds a mean value of the geomagnetism during a sampling period and specifies ~~a~~ the directional section to which the mean value of the geomagnetism belongs, as the direction of the vehicle.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The direction indicating device as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the current directional section of the vehicle specified by the directional section specifying unit agrees with a previous directional section of the vehicle, the display directional section

determining unit makes the current display directional section agree with the current directional section of the vehicle.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The direction indicating device as claimed in claim 2, wherein when the current directional section of the vehicle specified by the directional section specifying unit agrees with the previous directional section of the vehicle, if the latest mean value of geomagnetism is within a margin region provided to prevent chattering at a boundary of the directional sections, the display directional section determining unit makes the current display directional section agree with the previous display directional section, and if the latest mean value of geomagnetism is without the margin region, the display directional section determining unit makes the current display directional section agree with the current directional section of vehicle.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The direction indicating device as claimed in claim 4, wherein when the current directional section of the vehicle specified by the directional section specifying unit, the previous directional section of the vehicle and the second previous directional section of the vehicle agree with each other, the display directional section determining unit narrows the margin region.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The direction indicating device as claimed in claim 5, wherein when the current directional section of the vehicle specified by the directional section specifying

unit is different from the previous directional section of the vehicle, the display directional section determining unit returns the margin region to its original size.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The direction indicating device as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the current directional section of the vehicle specified by the directional section specifying unit is different from the previous directional section of the vehicle, the display directional section determining unit makes the current display directional section agree with the previous display directional section.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The direction indicating device as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the current directional section of the vehicle is different from the previous directional section of the vehicle, the display directional section determining unit determines a traveling directional section of the vehicle from the current directional section of the vehicle, the previous directional section of the vehicle, and the previous display directional section, and if the traveling directional section is constant, the display directional section determining unit updates the current display directional section to the traveling directional section side of the vehicle by one directional section from the previous display directional section.